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18 *Attorneys for Plaintiff InMode Ltd.*

19  
20 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
21 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

22 INMODE LTD.,

23 Plaintiff,

24 v.

25 BTL INDUSTRIES, INC. D/B/A BTL  
26 AESTHETICS,

27 Defendant.  
28

Case No. 2:23-CV-8583

**COMPLAINT FOR PATENT  
INFRINGEMENT**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

1 Plaintiff InMode Ltd. (“InMode” or “Plaintiff”) files this Complaint for patent  
2 infringement against BTL Industries, Inc. d/b/a BTL Aesthetics (“BTL” or  
3 “Defendant”) alleging, based on its own knowledge as to itself and its own actions, and  
4 based on information and belief as to all other matters, as follows:

5 1. This is a civil action arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35  
6 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*, including specifically 35 U.S.C. § 271, based on BTL’s infringement  
7 of at least Claims 1, 33, 35 and 41 of U.S. Patent No. 8,961,511 (the “’511 Patent”).

8 **THE PARTIES**

9 2. Plaintiff InMode is a corporation organized under the laws of the Israel,  
10 having its principal place of business at Tavor Building Shaar Yokneam, P.O. Box 533,  
11 Yokneam 2069206, Israel.

12 3. InMode is the owner by assignment to all right, title, and interest in and to  
13 the ’511 Patent, including the right to bring suit for past infringement and collect  
14 damages for past infringement.

15 4. InMode is an innovative developer, manufacturer, and marketer of  
16 aesthetic and medical technologies and solutions. InMode has incorporated its  
17 medically accepted, minimally- and non-invasive radiofrequency technologies into a  
18 comprehensive line of products for plastic surgery, gynecology, dermatology, and  
19 ophthalmology.

20 5. Upon information and belief, Defendant BTL is a Delaware corporation,  
21 having its principal place of business located at 362 Elm Street, Suite 5, Marlborough,  
22 Massachusetts 01752.

23 6. Upon information and belief, BTL has, as its registered agent in the State  
24 of Delaware, Valis Group Inc., located at 501 Silverside Road, Suite 105, Wilmington,  
25 Delaware 19809.

26 ///

27 ///

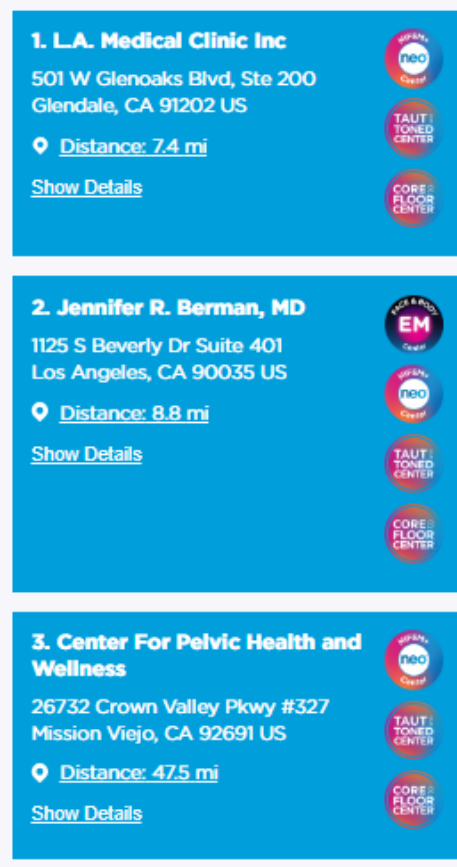
28 ///

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

7. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a) because the claims herein arise under the patent law of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*, including 35 U.S.C. § 271.

8. This Court has personal jurisdiction over BTL in this action because BTL has committed acts of patent infringement within the State of California and within this District through, for example, using, selling and/or offering for sale BTL's UltraFemme 360 products or EmFemme 360 products (the "Accused Products") to third-parties to provide vaginal rejuvenation treatment services in this District. In addition, BTL provides demonstrations and training utilizing the Accused Products and corresponding methods of treatment that infringe claims of the '511 Patent in this District.

9. According to BTL's website, a search for healthcare providers in this District offering vaginal rejuvenation treatment utilizing the Accused Products and corresponding methods of treatment include at least the following:



1 *See Find a Provider Near Me*, BODY BY BTL, <https://bodybybtl.com/find-a-provider/>  
2 (last visited Sept. 30, 2023).

3 10. BTL regularly transacts business in the State of California and within this  
4 District. For example, upon information and belief, BTL owns and operates a brick-  
5 and-mortar storefront—The Body Boutique LAX—located at 216 North Canon Drive,  
6 Beverly Hills, California 90210. *See Body Boutique*, BODY BY BTL,  
7 <https://bodybybtl.com/body-boutique/> (last visited Sept. 30, 2023). Upon further  
8 information and belief, BTL provides demonstrations and training for healthcare  
9 professionals, including treatments using the Accused Products that infringe the claims  
10 of the ‘511 Patent within this District. *Id.* In addition, BTL induces and contributes to  
11 infringement of the ‘511 Patent by third-party healthcare providers in this District

12 11. BTL engages in other persistent courses of conduct and derives substantial  
13 revenue from products and/or services provided in the State of California and in this  
14 District, and has purposefully established substantial, systematic, and continuous  
15 contacts within this District. For example, BTL has purposefully availed itself of the  
16 jurisdiction of this Court in the following pending cases: *BTL Indus., Inc. v. Beauty by*  
17 *Izzy*, Case No. 23-cv-01105 (June 9, 2023); *BTL Indus., Inc. v. Shape Body Sculpt*, Case  
18 No. 23-cv-04420 (June 6, 2023); *BTL Indus., Inc. v. Juventas*, Case No. 23-cv-04436  
19 (June 6, 2023); *BTL Indus., Inc. v. LA Curves Body Sculpting, LLC*, Case No. 23-cv-  
20 03497 (May 8, 2023); *BTL Indus., Inc. v. Beauty Works OC, LLC*, Case No. 23-cv-  
21 00654 (Apr. 14, 2023); and *BTL Indus., Inc. v. Munera Esthetics, Inc.*, Case No. 23-cv-  
22 00269 (Jan. 13, 2023). Thus, BTL should reasonably expect to be sued in this District.

23 12. BTL continues to grow its presence in this District, further cementing its  
24 ties to this District. For example, according to BTL’s website, BTL has more than ten  
25 authorized BTL Providers in the Los Angeles area, alone. *See Find a Provider Near*  
26 *Me*, BODY BY BTL, <https://bodybybtl.com/find-a-provider/> (last visited Sept. 30, 2023).

27 13. The Court’s exercise of jurisdiction over BTL will not offend traditional  
28 notions of fair play and substantial justice.

1           14. Venue in the Central District of California is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C.  
2 §§ 1391(b), (c), and 1400.

3           15. BTL has committed acts of infringement within this judicial District,  
4 giving rise to this action by *inter alia*, selling, offering for sale, and using the Accused  
5 Products and corresponding methods of treatment utilizing the Accused Products in this  
6 judicial District.

7           16. BTL continues to conduct business in this judicial District, including by  
8 committing one or more acts of making, using, selling, importing, and/or offering for  
9 sale the Accused Products and corresponding methods of treatment.

10                           **INMODE’S LEGACY OF INNOVATION**

11           17. Since 2008, InMode has been an innovative and revolutionary developer,  
12 manufacturer, and marketer of aesthetic and medical technologies and solutions.  
13 Harnessing its novel technologies, InMode strives to both enable new and emerging  
14 surgical procedures and improve upon existing treatments.

15           18. Recognizing the demand for safe and effective alternatives to traditionally  
16 invasive procedures, InMode has leveraged its wide range of minimally- and non-  
17 invasive radiofrequency technologies and treatments—including treatments for face  
18 and body contouring, medical aesthetics, and women’s health—to “offer a  
19 comprehensive line of products across several categories for aesthetic medicine,  
20 gynecology, dermatology and ophthalmology.” *See* Exhibit 1.

21           19. By way of example, between 2010 and 2021, InMode launched nine  
22 revolutionary product platforms in the aesthetics solutions market, including the  
23 InMode BodyTitle, Optimas, Votiva, Contoura, Triton, EmbraceRF, Evolve, Evoke,  
24 and Morpheus8.

25           20. InMode has also substantially invested in developing a broad array of  
26 women’s wellness products and treatments. In fact, just this year, InMode strategically  
27 acquired certain assets from Viveve Inc., a pioneer in the field of women’s wellness.  
28 *See id.* In doing so, InMode further solidified itself as a leader in the women’s wellness

1 market and “reaffirm[ed] its commitment to commercializing innovative technologies.”

2 *See id.*

3 21. InMode’s continued success in introducing successful, minimally- and  
4 non-invasive medical and aesthetic solutions is evidence of its innovative approach and  
5 business acumen. Resultantly, InMode remains one of the most reputable and  
6 recognizable innovators of medical and aesthetic solutions, today.

7 22. InMode brings the instant lawsuit because BTL is unlawfully infringing  
8 InMode’s intellectual property—intellectual property that is a direct result of InMode’s  
9 innovation and ingenuity, and its investments in aesthetic solutions and women’s  
10 healthcare.

11 **THE ASSERTED PATENT AND ACCUSED PRODUCTS**

12 23. One of the assets InMode acquired from Viveve, Inc. is United States  
13 Patent No. 8,961,511 (the “’511 Patent”). The ’511 Patent, entitled “Vaginal  
14 Remodeling Device And Methods,” was duly and legally issued on February 24, 2015,  
15 naming Jonathan B. Parmer as the sole inventor and Viveve, Inc. as the sole assignee.  
16 The ’511 Patent was issued from U.S. Patent Application No. 11/704,067, filed on  
17 February 7, 2007. A true and accurate copy of the ’511 Patent is attached hereto as  
18 Exhibit 2.

19 24. InMode acquired all right, title, and interest to the ’511 Patent from  
20 Viveve, Inc., with sole rights to enforce the ’511 Patent and sue infringers, including  
21 for past infringement and damages.

22 25. The ’511 Patent relates generally to apparatus and methods for tightening  
23 tissue of the female genitalia by heating targeted connective tissue with radiant energy.  
24 The effect of the applied heat is to remodel genital tissue by tightening it. *See id.* at  
25 Abstract.

26 26. Vaginal childbirth can lead to permanent stretching of the vaginal tissue,  
27 leaving some women with long term medical consequences, including uterine prolapse,  
28 cystoceles, stress urinary incontinence, decreased sexual pleasure, and more. *See id.* at

1 1:62-2:9. While certain surgical options are available to alleviate these problems, such  
2 approaches can frustrate the issue by leaving scarring that is counterproductive to the  
3 intended result. *Id.* at 2:9-12. Further, surgical approaches are generally less popular  
4 given the risks associated with invasive procedures in a sensitive area. *Id.* at 2:13-16.

5 27. As an alternative to invasive and risky surgical procedures, the '511 Patent  
6 describes a non-invasive method to effectively tighten genital tissue “by heating  
7 targeted connective tissue with radiant energy, while cooling the mucosal epithelial  
8 surface over the targeted tissue to protect it from the heat.” *See id.* at Abstract.

9 28. While non-uniform delivery of energy can cause damage to the mucosal  
10 epithelium, embodiments of the claimed invention include adaptive configurations of  
11 the energy delivery element and treatment tip to make the best contact with the genital  
12 epithelial surface, thereby uniformly delivering energy into the target tissue. *Id.* at 2:53-  
13 3:7.

14 29. The desired remodeling can occur while the genital tissue is being heated  
15 due to the denaturation of existing collagen within the target tissue’s collagen-rich areas.  
16 *Id.* at 4:58-65. Remodeling may also substantially occur in the days or weeks thereafter  
17 due to biological healing responses to the heat, which can include the deposition of new  
18 collagen. *Id.* at 4:65-5:2. In either case, the effect is generally one of tissue contraction  
19 or tightening, resulting in an overall tightening of the vagina and introitus. *Id.* at 5:2-6.

20 30. Defendant BTL markets vaginal reconstruction products and treatments  
21 under the tradenames UltraFemme 360 and EmFemme 360 (the “Accused Products”).  
22 *See, e.g., EmFemme 360*, BODY BY BTL, [https://www.bodybybtl.com/solutions/](https://www.bodybybtl.com/solutions/emfemme-360)  
23 [emfemme-360](https://www.bodybybtl.com/solutions/emfemme-360) (last visited Sept. 30, 2023). Upon information and belief, the  
24 UltraFemme 360 product and corresponding treatment was launched in the United  
25 States after gaining FDA 510(k) approval in 2017. Upon further information and belief,  
26 the EmFemme 360 product and corresponding treatment was launched in the United  
27 States in 2022.

28 ///







1           36. As set forth in the attached non-limiting claim chart (Exhibit 5), BTL has  
2 infringed and continues to infringe at least claims 1, 33, 35, and 41 of the '511 Patent  
3 by making, having made, using, importing, supplying, distributing, selling, and/or  
4 offering for sale the Accused Products and corresponding treatments utilizing the  
5 Accused Products, including, but not limited to, providing demonstrations and training  
6 sessions utilizing the Accused Products.

7           37. Upon information and belief, Defendant BTL has had, and continues to  
8 have, knowledge of the '511 Patent. At the very least, Defendant BTL has had  
9 knowledge of the '511 Patent since the filing of this Complaint. Upon information and  
10 belief, however, BTL was aware of the '511 Patent as a result of a patent infringement  
11 lawsuit filed by the previous owner of the '511 Patent, Viveve, Inc. ("Viveve"),  
12 asserting infringement of the '511 Patent against ThermiGen, LLC ("ThermiGen") (and  
13 related entities and persons). *See Viveve, Inc. v. ThermiGen, LLC et al.*, Case No. 2:16-  
14 CV-1189-JRG (E.D. Tex. 2016) (the "Viveve Lawsuit"). Viveve, ThermiGen, and BTL  
15 are and/or were competitors in the aesthetic healthcare industry and each offered  
16 competing RF vaginal rejuvenation products and treatments in the market.

17           38. Upon information and belief, BTL knew of the Viveve Lawsuit and  
18 reviewed information associated with the status of the Viveve Lawsuit such that BTL  
19 knew or should have known of the '511 Patent and that the Accused Products and  
20 corresponding treatments using the Accused Products infringe the '511 Patent. For  
21 example, both Viveve and ThermiGen issued press releases announcing the settlement  
22 of the Viveve Lawsuit. *See Thermi Announces Settlement of Patent Infringement*  
23 *Litigation with Viveve*, CISION PR NEWSWIRE (June 4, 2018, 8:30 ET),  
24 [https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/thermi-announces-settlement-of-patent-](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/thermi-announces-settlement-of-patent-infringement-litigation-with-viveve-300659000.html)  
25 [infringement-litigation-with-viveve-300659000.html](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/thermi-announces-settlement-of-patent-infringement-litigation-with-viveve-300659000.html); *Viveve Announces Settlement of*  
26 *Patent Infringement*, GLOBAL NEWSWIRE (JUNE 4, 2018, 8:28 ET),  
27 [https://www.globenewswire.com/en/news-release/2018/06/04/1516178/0/en/Viveve-](https://www.globenewswire.com/en/news-release/2018/06/04/1516178/0/en/Viveve-Announces-Settlement-of-Patent-Infringement-Litigation-with-Thermi.html)  
28 [Announces-Settlement-of-Patent-Infringement-Litigation-with-Thermi.html](https://www.globenewswire.com/en/news-release/2018/06/04/1516178/0/en/Viveve-Announces-Settlement-of-Patent-Infringement-Litigation-with-Thermi.html). To the

1 extent that Defendant BTL was not aware of the '511 Patent as a result of the Viveve  
2 Lawsuit, BTL was willfully blind to its infringement of the '511 Patent.

3 39. Defendant BTL's direct infringement of the '511 Patent has caused, and  
4 will continue to cause, InMode to suffer substantial and irreparable harm.

5 40. BTL's infringement of the '511 Patent is, has been, and continues to be,  
6 willful, intentional, deliberate, and/or in conscious disregard of InMode's rights under  
7 the '511 Patent.

8 41. InMode has been damaged as a result of BTL's infringing conduct alleged  
9 above. Thus, BTL is liable to InMode in an amount that compensates it for such  
10 infringement, which by law cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with  
11 interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

12 42. Upon information and belief, Defendant BTL's infringement of the '511  
13 Patent has been deliberate and willful, making this an exceptional case entitling InMode  
14 to recover additional damages and attorneys' fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285.

## 15 **COUNT II**

### 16 **(Indirect Infringement of the '511 Patent)**

17 43. InMode re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations contained  
18 in paragraphs 1- 42 of this Complaint.

19 44. Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271 (b) and (c), Defendant BTL has indirectly  
20 infringed, and continues to indirectly infringe, one or more claims of the '511 Patent,  
21 including but not limited to claims 1, 33, 35 and 41, by using, selling, and/or offering  
22 for sale the Accused Products and methods of treatment that use the Accused Products.  
23 The claim chart in Exhibit 5 sets forth where each element of the representative  
24 infringed claims 1, 33, 35 and 41 of the '511 Patent can be found in the Accused  
25 Products and the corresponding method/treatment utilizing the Accused Products.

26 45. Defendant BTL is liable for actively inducing infringement, under 35  
27 U.S.C. § 271 (b), of one or more claims of the '511 Patent, including, but not limited  
28 to, claims 1, 33, 35 and 41, by knowingly taking active steps to encourage and facilitate

1 direct infringement by others, such as third-party healthcare providers, who use the  
2 Accused Products and patented methods.

3 46. Upon information and belief, Defendant BTL knowingly provides  
4 literature, instructional videos, training guides, user manuals and other instructional  
5 materials encouraging and facilitating direct infringement of the patented methods of  
6 the '511 Patent by third-party healthcare providers.

7 47. Upon information and belief, Defendant BTL has had, and continues to  
8 have, knowledge of the '511 Patent. At the very least, Defendant BTL has had  
9 knowledge of the '511 Patent since the filing of this Complaint. Upon information and  
10 belief, however, BTL was aware of the '511 Patent as a result of the Viveve Lawsuit,  
11 asserting infringement of the '511 Patent against ThermiGen (and related entities and  
12 persons). *See Viveve, Inc.*, Case No. 2:16-CV-1189-JRG. Viveve, ThermiGen, and  
13 BTL are and/or were competitors in the aesthetic healthcare industry and each offered  
14 competing RF vaginal rejuvenation products in the market.

15 48. Upon information and belief, BTL knew of the Viveve Lawsuit and  
16 reviewed information associated with the status of the Viveve Lawsuit such that BTL  
17 knew or should have known of the '511 Patent and that the Accused Products and  
18 corresponding treatments using the Accused Products infringe the '511 Patent. For  
19 example, both Viveve and ThermiGen issued press releases announcing the settlement  
20 of the Viveve Lawsuit. *See Thermi Announces Settlement of Patent Infringement*  
21 *Litigation with Viveve, supra* ¶ 38; *Viveve Announces Settlement of Patent Infringement,*  
22 *supra* ¶ 38. To the extent that Defendant BTL was not aware of the '511 Patent as a  
23 result of the Viveve Lawsuit, BTL was willfully blind to its infringement of the '511  
24 Patent.

25 49. Defendant BTL contributes to the infringement of the '511 Patent in  
26 violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c), including, but not limited to claims 1, 33, 35 and 41,  
27 by making, using, selling, offering to sell, and distributing into the United States the  
28 Accused Products that are a material part of the patented invention, knowing that the

1 Accused Products are specially made, or specially adapted, for use in a manner that  
2 infringes at least claims 1, 33, 35 and 41 of the '511 Patent.

3 50. Upon information and belief, the Accused Products are not a staple article  
4 or commodity suitable for substantial non-infringing use.

5 51. Defendant BTL's indirect infringement of the '511 Patent has caused  
6 substantial and irreparable harm to InMode and will continue to cause such harm unless  
7 and until its infringing activities are enjoined by this Court.

8 52. InMode is entitled to damages adequate to compensate it for Defendant  
9 BTL's indirect infringement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284, in an amount to be determined  
10 at trial, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty.

11 53. Upon information and belief, Defendant BTL's indirect infringement of  
12 the '511 Patent has been deliberate and willful, making this an exceptional case entitling  
13 InMode to recover additional damages and attorneys' fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285.

14 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

15 WHEREFORE, InMode respectfully requests that:

16 A. The Court find that BTL has directly infringed the '511 Patent and hold  
17 BTL liable for such infringement;

18 B. The Court find that BTL has indirectly infringed the '511 Patent by  
19 inducing its customers to directly infringe the '511 Patent and hold BTL liable for such  
20 infringement;

21 C. The Court find that BTL has indirectly infringed the '511 Patent by  
22 contributing to BTL's customers' direct infringement of the '511 Patent, and hold BTL  
23 liable for such infringement;

24 D. The Court preliminarily and permanently enjoin BTL from further  
25 infringement of the '511 Patent;

26 E. The Court award damages pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284 adequate to  
27 compensate InMode for BTL's past infringement of the '511 Patent, including both pre-  
28 and post-judgment interest and costs as fixed by the Court;

1 F. The Court declare that this is an exceptional case entitling InMode to its  
2 reasonable attorneys' fees under 35 U.S.C. § 285; and

3 G. The Court award such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.  
4

5 Dated: October 11, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

6 By: /s/ Christina N. Goodrich

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15 *Attorneys for Plaintiff InMode Ltd.*  
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**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Pursuant to Rule 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, InMode hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues raised by this Complaint.

Dated: October 11, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Christina N. Goodrich

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